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(54) Title: HERBAL NUTRACEUTICAL FORMULATION FOR FEMALES/EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND ITS PROCESS OF PREPARATION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a herbal health protective, promotive and nutraceutical formulation for women, human expectant mothers, wherein the said formulation, process and its composition comprising seeds/seed products selected from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals ranging from 80-90% by wt; 10 - 20 % by wt of extract obtained from essential herbs/ medicinal plants of the genera Centella, Chlorophytum, Boerhaavia and Sida, and optional herbs/medicinal plants selected from the Withania somnifera, Pueraria tuberosa, Asparagus racemosus and Saraca indica.

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HERBAL NUTRACEUTICAL FORMULATION FOR FEMALES/EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND ITS PROCESS OF PREPARATION

Technical Field

The present invention relates to an herbal health protective and promotive nutraceutical formulations for females / expectant mothers.

Background Art

- 10 Nutraceuticals, are foods or bioactive ingredients in foods that protect or promote health whether delivered in raw agricultural commodities, processed foods, dietary supplements, extracts, beverages or other products and occurs at the intersection of food and pharmaceutical industries. The development of next generation nutraceutical "super foods" or products consisting value-addition in the traditional natural diets. Their ingredients have tremendous
- 15 impact on the health care system and may provide medical health benefits including the prevention and or treatment of diseases. Nutraceuticals have potential to be used as food supplement, preventive medicine and the growing evidence points in the direction that certain foods fight and or prevent against diseases.
- 20 The food may be nutraceutical i.e. a food or parts of food that provide medical health benefits including the prevention and or treatment of diseases. Functional foods provide specific benefits, and medical foods developed for use under medical supervision to treat or manage particular disease or nutritional deficiency stage. Nutraceutical and functional- foods are a hybrid of both the traditionally defined food and drug arenas. The word Nutraceuticals
- 25 combines 'nutrition' and 'pharmaceuticals' to mean that food can be used as preventive drugs or food supplements. The entire concept is based on the disease preventing phytonutrients present in foodstuffs of the diet in combating diseases. The major phytonutrients identified to have nutraceutical properties include terpenes, phytosterols, phenols and theols. Carotenoids found in green leafy vegetables like amaranth, *Chenopodium* (goose foot), mustard, 'Methi',
- 30 spinach and cabbage etc are precursor of vitamin A. They have preventive action against many eye diseases, cancer and also acts as antioxidant. Limonoids also acts as antioxidants by protecting lung tissues from oxygen free radicals. Antioxidants have been associated with reduced risk of cardiovascular diseases and several types of cancer. They are known to act to defuse the volatile toxic molecules of free oxygen radicals, a by-product of cell metabolism.
- 35 These are also produced in the body on exposure to sunlight, X-rays, ozone, tobacco smoke, auto-exhaust and other environmental pollutants. Carotenoids, tocopherols, ascorbates and polyphenols are strong natural antioxidants generally found in plants and foods. They

enhance the body's detoxification activity and protect against certain type of cancers by eliminating ill health causing chemical from the body to prevent degenerative diseases. Phytosterols competes with dietary cholesterol for uptake in intestine thereby blocking cholesterol absorption into the body and can also prevent the development of tumor in breast and prostate glands. Phenols a large group of phytonutrients, with sub classes in flavonoids, biflavonoids, anthocyanines and isoflavonoids have profound importance in preventive medicine. Berries, grapes and eggplants are rich in phenolics and have protective action against oxidative damage of tissues and inflammation. It has been proved that phytochemicals can enhance the efficacy of vitamin C, can also act against allergies, ulcers, tumors, platelet aggregation, controlling hypertension and can reduce the risk of estrogen induced cancer. Anthocyanidines or flavonals have significant role in collagen protein synthesis and are important in sports medicine. Beans and other legumes are rich natural sources of protein with the necessary nutrients needed for a healthy body and many of them contain specific immune-boosting potential.

Theols are major sulfur containing phytonutrients and the nutraceutical foods rich in theols include garlic, onion, mustard, cabbage, turnip and chives. They are potent antimutagenic and anticarcinogenic agents and gives cardio vascular protection. Cruciferous vegetables are rich source of glucosinolates, which activate liver detoxification enzymes and can reduce tumor. They can also block the activity of toxins produced by bacteria and viruses thereby building immunity against diseases. Indoles found in citrus and gooseberries are effective against carcinogenic chemicals in the intestine. The herbs like alfalfa, *Ginko biloba*, Ginseng, St John's wort etc are considered to be good for brain development. *Asparagus* acts as immunomodulator, builds healthy capillary, RBC, stimulate kidney and protects liver. Malnutrition is a major problem in the developing and third world countries resulting several diseases and low IQ in children. A child's capacity to learn is directly related to food intake and good nutrition (Child Nutrition Advisory Council, USA). The development of brain mainly depends on the health of pregnant and lactating mother finally on the quality of mother's diet. Similarly, the food also plays significant role in the general health of infants, growing children, diabetics, heart, nerves and aged. The right foods do have the power to heal, keeping good health of body functions, ageing, rejuvenating, immuno-modulating and prevention against diseases, just as the wrong foods can cause sickness, rapid ageing and premature death. The environmental and dietary factors i.e. poor nutrition habits are one of the co-factors for different diseases. To combat malnutrition and growing demand of

nutraceuticals need tailoring practices through value addition to optimize the concentration and bioavailability of the desired food components.

Prior art References

- 5 Reference is made to a book by Balch PA & Balch JF (Rx Prescription for Dietary Wellness, 1993, USA) wherein important isoflavones, genestin and diazin found in soybean (*Glycine max*) have properties against tumor growth, protease inhibitors found in legumes, can block natural carcinogens from forming tumors. Whole grains, germinated seeds, legumes and herbs
- 10 are basically powerful foods. Reference is made to books by Guha Bakshi DN, Sensarma P & Pal DC (A Lexicon of Medicinal Plants in India, Naya Prokash, 1999, Calcutta, India); Chopra RN, Nayar SL, & Chopra IC (Glossary of Indian Medicinal Plants, NISCOM, CSIR, New Delhi, India 1999); Anonymous (Wealth of India, Raw Materials, CSIR, New Delhi, India) and a chapter Seed Proteins by Prakash D (Current Concepts in Seed Biology K G
- 15 Mukerji et al. eds 1993); published research articles by Misra PS, Prakash D, Pandey RM & Pal M, *Fitoterapia* 56: 318-320, 1985; Prakash D, Narayan P & Misra P S, *Plant Foods Hum. Nutr.* 36: 341-344, 1987; Prakash D, Misra PN & Misra PS, *J. Sci. Food Agric.* 57: 623-626, 1991; Prakash D & Pal M, *J. Sci. Food Agric.* 58: 145-147, 1992; Prakash D, Nath P & Pal M, *J. Sci. Food Agric.* 62: 203-205, 1993; Prakash D, Joshi BD & Pal M, *Int. J. Food Sci. Nutr.*
- 20 46: 47-51, 1995; Prakash D & Pal M, *Int. J. Food Sci. Nutr.* 49: 271-275, 1998; Prakash D & Pal M, *Int. J. Food Sci. Nutr.* 49: 285-288, 1998; Prakash D, Niranjana A & Tewari SK *Int. J. Food Sci. Nutr.* 52: 79-82, 2001) wherein the significant nutritional composition and pharmaceutical uses of soybean (*Glycine max*), kidney-bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), chick-pea (*Cicer arietinum*), black-gram/'Urd' (*Phaseolus mungo*), green-gram/'Mung' (*Phaseolus*
- 25 *radiatus*), winged bean (*Psophocarpus tetragonolobus*), 'Kewanch' (*Mucuna pruriens*), wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), amaranth (*Amaranthus hypochondriacus*), goose foot/quinoa (*Chenopodium quinoa*) and buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculantus*) have been described. These seeds are being used as edible foods in the form of different kind of preparations without fortification with herbs/medicinal plants. Reference is made to books by
- 30 Guha Bakshi DN, Sensarma P & Pal DC (A Lexicon of Medicinal Plants in India, Naya Prokash, 1999, Calcutta, India); Chopra RN, Nayar SL, & Chopra IC (Glossary of Indian Medicinal Plants, NISCOM, CSIR, New Delhi, India 1999); Kapoor LD (Handbook of Ayurvedic Medicinal Plants, CRC Press, Florida, 1990); Sharma PV (Dravyaguna Vijnana, Vol. II, 1992, Chaukhambha Bharati Academy, Varanasi); Balch PA & Balch JF (Rx
- 35 Prescription for Dietary Wellness, 1993, USA) and Anonymous (Wealth of India, Raw

Materials, CSIR, New Delhi, India) wherein the traditional and modern medicinal uses of the herbs/medicinal plants like *Centella asiatica*, for brain development; *Asparagus racemosus* and *Chlorophytum tuberosum* as immuno-modulator, potent diuretic, galactagogue, aphrodisiac, protects against cancer, builds healthy capillary, RBC, stimulate kidney and liver;

5 *Withania somnifera* as tonic, alternative, astringent, aphrodisiac; *Boerhaavia diffusa*, diuretic, hepatoprotective; *Saraca indica*, diuretic, gynecological disorders; *Sida cordifolia*, gonorrhea, antifetique; *Pueraria tuberosa*, diuretic, cardiotonic; *Piper longum*, cardiac stimulant, rejuvenator, bioavailability enhancer; *Elettaria cardamomum*, stimulant, stomachic, carminative, diuretic and *Myristica fragrans* as stimulant have been mentioned. These

10 herbs/medicinal plants are being used for the preparation of different kind of medicines alone or in different combinations.

However, a number of patents have been granted on nutraceuticals, which comprises either a single or a mixture of several phytonutrients in concentrated form. In some cases, the products

15 were fortified with synthetic ingredients also. Reference is made to patents (Patent No. AU2557899; WO9935917) wherein methods of infusing phytochemicals, nutraceuticals and other compositions into food products e.g. juices, fruits, vegetables and meats, etc through osmotic dehydration are described. The methods are tedious including the use of some chemicals during the preparation. Reference is made to patents (Patent No. AU4777100;

20 WO0064282) wherein nutraceuticals and ingredients for functional foods are prepared by co-spray drying using fructans, fructooligosaccharides instead of maltodextrins as a drying agent and ingredients such as flavonoids, anthocyanins, resveratrol. The main emphasis has been limited to phenolic phytochemicals and products are in the form of a gel or cream, showing fat like texture which can only be used as spreader. Reference is made to patents (Patent No.

25 AU4038800; WO0057726) wherein nutraceuticals comprising a blend of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L-alpha-aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine 1-methyl ester (neotame) with another sweetener has been mentioned. The compounds used are synthetic and have limited importance only as sweetener or flavor modifier in nutraceuticals. Neotame is a synthetic variation of aspartame and poses potential major health problems like incidents of grand mal

30 seizures, brain tumors and environmental hazards. Reference is made to patents (Patent No. US6087353; AU3696599; WO9959421) wherein esterified and subsequently hydrogenated phytosterol composition for use alone or for incorporation into foods, beverages, pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals have been described. The isolated phytosterols from plants have been modified by chemical process of esterification for the physical

characteristics. Reference is made to patent (Patent No. US6099867) wherein a nutraceutical composition comprising water insoluble or water soluble antler powder or a combination and method of producing the same has been described. The products are non-ecofriendly of animal origin with limited nutraceutical importance. The nutraceuticals with branded name as Dieter's

5 Formula, Digestive Formula, Mega Man, Stress formula, vegetative Laxative, Memory helper with *Ginkgo biloba*, Revitalizer with Ginseng, Dieter's helper etc are available in international market (Internet). Like-wise in Indian market commercial products like Complian, Boost, Horlics, Bounrvita, Cerelac, Protinex, Body Pro, Mega Mass, Muscle Builder, 90 Plus Protein and Soyatein etc are available. Besides the natural ingredients majority of the products also

10 contain some synthetic amino acids, vitamins and other ingredients. Most of them are without any natural herbs/medicinal plants and recommended as food supplement for nutrition. While, the present invention provides a process for the preparation of nutraceuticals with specific combination of edible legumes, cereals, pseudocereals for natural nutrients and herbs/medicinal plants with significant medicinal values to provide optimum balanced

15 nutrition and general health protective, preventive and promotive benefits. To the best of our knowledge any process for nutraceutical preparation does not exist comprising a combination of legumes, cereals, pseudocereals fortified with herbs/ medicinal plants used in the present investigation.

20 A literature survey and internet screening revealed that nutraceuticals comprising a proper combination of natural edible seeds, herbs and medicinal plants has not yet been prepared to provide adequate nutrition and health protective benefits.

Objects of the invention

25 The main object of the present invention relates to the custom made tailored nutraceutical functional food composition(s), in a proper combination of natural edible seeds, herbs/ medicinal plants to provide optimum nutrition, health protective, preventive and promotive benefits for general health care of the females, pregnant and lactating mothers and to ward off

30 malnutrition.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an herbal health protective nutraceutical formulation, which obviates the drawbacks as detailed above.

Another object of the present invention is to formulate a combination of edible legumes, cereals, pseudocereals with promising potential for the development of base material to

35 provide essential natural nutrients.

Still another object of the present invention is to develop health protective and preventive nutraceutical formulation as food supplements with specific functional attributes by fortifying nutritional base material with herbs/medicinal plants.

- Yet another object of the present invention is to provide nutraceutical formulation for optimum nutrition, general health promotive and well being of the females to ameliorate the general health at prenatal and post natal stages and to ward off malnutrition.

Summary of the invention

- The present invention relates to the custom made tailored nutraceutical functional food composition(s), in a proper combination of natural edible seeds, herbs/ medicinal plants to provide optimum nutrition, health protective, preventive and promotive benefits for general health care of the women, pregnant and lactating mothers and to ward off malnutrition.

Detailed description

- Accordingly, the present invention provides a herbal health protective, promotive nutraceutical formulation for women/expectant human mothers, said formulation comprising seeds/seed products selected from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals ranging from 80-90% and an extract ranging between 10-20%.

- Also, the present invention provides a composition used as a herbal health protective, promotive nutraceutical formulation for females/expectant mothers, said composition comprising the said formulation consisting of seed powder mixture herbs/medicinal plant extract, and the composition further comprising sugar/jaggary, milk powder, *Piper longum* fruits, *Myristica fragrans* fruit powder, *Elettaria cardamomum* seed powder and coca powder.

- The present invention also provide a process for the preparation of custom made herbal health protective, promotive nutraceutical formulations which may be used as food supplements to ameliorate the general health of females with optimum nutrients so as to ensure the optimal growth and development of the child both at prenatal and post natal stages.

- The process comprises the seeds, from selected genera of *Glycine*, *Phaseolus*, *Cicer*, *Psophocarpus*, *Mucuna*, *Triticum*, *Hordeum*, *Amaranthus*, *Chenopodium* and *Fagopyrum*, may be roasted by keeping in microwave oven (BPL-Sanyo, model BMO 800 TS, frequency 2450 Mhz) ranging from 2 to 15 minutes separately, the microwave roasted seeds, 12 in number, may be powdered separately to pass through a sieve ranging from 50 to 400- mesh, the seed powders may be mixed ranging from 0 to 75% to get the base products, in a mixer

- grinder ranging from 5 to 55 minutes and may be called as base product, the roots, fruits, bark, whole plant of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants from the genera of *Centella*, *Withania*, *Pueraria*, *Asparagus*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia*, *Sida*, *Saraca*, *Piper*, *Elettaria* and *Myristica* may be collected from different natural sources in India and may be cut into small pieces 2-10 cm, dried under shade ranging from 25 to 45° C, crushed and powdered ranging from 10 to 20- mesh separately, the powdered roots, fruits, bark, whole plant of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants may be mixed ranging from 0 to 50% and may be extracted with aqueous alcohol mixture ranging from 10 to 90% v/v thrice for a period ranging from 12 to 48 hours, the alcohol may be selected from a group of methanol, ethanol, propanol and butanol, at temperature ranging from 25 to 45°C, the solvent from combined extractives may be removed under reduced pressure ranging from 20 to 100 psi at a temperature ranging from 35 to 65°C and the viscous residue thus obtained may be called as the plants extract, the residue may be suspended in water in the ratio ranging from 20 to 70% and mixed with mixer grinder for a period ranging from 10 to 50 minutes, the suspension of plants extract may be mixed with the mixture of roasted seed powders ranging in the ratio from 0.4 to 20% and mixed thoroughly for a period of ranging from 10 to 50 minutes, the plants extract and seed powders mixture may be dried for a period ranging from 12 to 48 hours at a temperature ranging from 30 to 50°C, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture may be again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes, to get the final nutraceutical products in the mixture of base product and plants extract, some additional ingredients like pale sugar powder in the ratio ranging from 0 to 50%, jaggery in the ratio ranging from 0 to 50%, milk powder in the ratio ranging from 0 to 30%, coca powder in the ratio ranging from 0 to 15%, *Elettaria cardamomum* (Elaichi) powder in the ratio ranging from 0 to 8%, *Piper longum* (Pippali) fruit powder ranging from 0-5%, *Myristica fragrans* (Jaiphal) fruit powder ranging from 0-5%, may also be added, the total mixture thus obtained may be mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes to get the nutraceuticals. The end product may be used in the form of powder, granules, biscuits, tablet or capsule etc.
- It was observed that the seeds from the genera of *Glycine*, *Phaseolus* and *Cicer* are essential, *Triticum*, *Hordium* and *Amaranthus* additional, *Psophocarpus*, *Mucuna*, *Fagopyrum* and *Chenopodium* are optional components of the base material. Among the herbs/medicinal plants from the genera of *Centella*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia* and *Sida* are essential, *Withania*, *Pueraria*, *Asparagus*, *Saraca* additional, *Piper*, *Elettaria* and *Myristica* are optional

components of the value addition plant material. The combination of the present nutraceuticals is not a mere admixture of the ingredients used resulting in aggregation of their properties but a mixture having synergistically enhanced properties useful as food supplement for health protective, preventive and promotive benefits of the females, pregnant and lactating mothers including pre and post natal stages.

Embodiments :

In an embodiment of the provides a herbal health protective, promotive and nutraceutical formulation for women, human expectant mothers, wherein the said formulation comprising seeds/ seed products selected from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals ranging from 80-90% by wt; 10 - 20 % by wt of extract obtained from essential herbs/ medicinal plants of the genera *Centella*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia* and *Sida*, and optional herbs / medicinal plants selected from the *Withania somnifera*, *Pueraria tuberosa*, *Asparagus racemosus* and *Saraca indica*.

In another embodiment of the invention, the seeds/ seed products are selected from dried seeds, roasted seeds and powdered seeds.

In another embodiment of the invention, the legumes used are essentially selected from the group comprising *Glycine max*, *Cicer arietinum*, *Phaseolus mungo*, *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus radiatus*, and optionally selected from the group comprising *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus* and *Mucuna pruriens*.

In still another embodiment of the invention relates to the total amount of legumes used in the formulation is ranging from 55 - 60 % by wt.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the cereals used are selected from *Triticum aestivum*, *Hordeum vulgare* or mixtures thereof.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the pseudocereals used are selected from *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, *Fagopyrum esculantus*, *Chenopodium quinoa* or mixtures thereof.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the total amount of cereals used is in the range between 15-25 % by wt.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the total amount of pseudocereal used is in the range between 20 - 30 % by wt.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the said herbs/medicinal plant parts used is selected from roots, fruits, bark and whole plants.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the total amount of herbs/medicinal plants used is X, wherein X is ranging between 10 – 20 % by wt of the formulation.

Yet another embodiment of the invention relates to the amounts of the essential herbs/medicinal plants namely *Centella asiatica*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Boerhaavia diffusa* and *Sida cordifolia* are used in the ranges between 10-40 % by wt of X, 2-20% by wt of X, 5-30 % by wt of X and 10-20 % by wt of X respectively.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the amounts of the essential herbs/medicinal plants namely *Centella asiatica*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Boerhaavia diffusa* and *Sida cordifolia* are used in the ranges between 16-32 % by wt of X, 4-16% by wt of X , 5-24 % by wt of X and 12-16 % by wt of X respectively.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the amount of the optional herbs/medicinal plants namely *Withania somnifera*, *Pueraria tuberosa*, *Asparagus racemosus* and *Saraca indica* are used in the ranges between 0-16 % by wt of X, 0-24 % by wt of X and 0-16 % by wt of X and 0-12 % by wt of X respectively.

Yet another embodiment of the invention, the said herbal formulation optionally contains acceptable amount of further additives selected from *Piper*, *Elettaria* and *Myristica*.

One more embodiment of the invention relates to a herbal health protective, promotive and nutraceutical composition for females and expectant mothers, wherein the said formulation comprising of seed powder mixture ranging from 44 to 52 %, herbs/medicinal plant extract ranging from 5 to 13 %, sugar/jaggery ranging from 20 to 35 %, milk powder ranging from 0 to 20%, *Piper longum* fruit powder ranging from 0.5 to 5.0%, *Myristica fragrans* fruit powder ranging from 0 to 5.0%, *Elettaria cardamomum* seed powder ranging from 0 to 4.0%, coca powder ranging from 0 to 10 %.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the seed powder mixture contain legumes in the range between 23-31%, cereals in the range between 6- 17% and pseudocereals in the range between 10- 13%.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the end-product is suitable for use in the form of powder, granules, biscuits, tablets, capsules or any other suitable forms.

One more embodiment of the invention relates to a process for the preparation of herbal health protective, promotive nutraceutical compositions useful as food supplements to ameliorate the general health of females/ expectant mothers with optimum nutrients so as to ensure the optimal growth and development of the child both at pre-natal and post-natal stages, said process comprising:

- a. selecting one or more seeds/seed products from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals wherein, the legumes consisting plants of genera *Glycine*, *Cicer*, *Phaseolus*, *Psophocarpus*, *Mucuna*, *P.vulgaris*, and *P.radiatus*, cereals consisting plants of genera *Triticum* and *Hordeum*, and, pseudocereals consisting plants of genera *Amaranthus*, *Chenopodium* and *Fagopyrum*,
- b. roasting the seeds/seed products for 2 to 15 minutes under microwave conditions having frequency 1500-2500 Mhz,
- c. powdering the roasted seeds to a mesh size of 50 - 400 and mixing the same to obtain a base product,
- d. obtaining extract of herbs/medicinal plants from one or more plants of genera *Centella*, *Withania*, *Pueraria*, *Asparagus*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia*, *Sida* and *Saraca*, and drying the extract to obtain a residue, and
- e. mixing the plants extract residue with the base product obtained from step (c) to get the final nutraceutical products and optionally adding one or more additives selected from sugar, jaggary, milk powder, *Piper longum*, *Myristica fragrans*, *Elettaria cardamomum* and coca powder.

In another embodiment of the invention, the roasted seed powders are mixed in various proportions ranging up to 80% and the plant parts used are selected from roots, fruits, bark and whole plant of herbs/medicinal plants ranging up to 20% are selected for use in the nutraceutical products.

In another embodiment of the invention, the herbs/medicinal plants are cut into small pieces ranging from 2 to 10 cm, dried under shade at the temperature ranging from 25 to 45°C and crushed to coarse powder ranging from 10 to 20 mesh size before extraction and the crushed and powdered herbs/medicinal plants are mixed up to 50% of the total mixture.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the powdered herbs/medicinal plants mixture is extracted with aqueous alcohol in the range of 10 to 90% v/v thrice for 12 to 48 hours, at temperature ranging from 25 to 45°C.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the alcohol is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol and butanol.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the said solvent from combined extracts is removed under reduced pressure ranging from 20 to 100 PSI at temperature ranging from 35 to 65°C and the viscous residue thus obtained is called as plants extract, the plants extract is

suspended in water in the ratio ranging from 20 to 70% by stirring for 10 to 50 minutes and is mixed with roasted seed powder mixture in the ratio ranging up to 20%.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the mixture of plants extract and roasted seed powders are mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes and the mixture is dried for a period of ranging from 12 to 48 hours at temperature ranging from 30 to 50°C.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture is again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes and the powder thus obtained is used to prepare final nutraceuticals.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the amount of optional additives used namely sugar/jaggary or mixture thereof, milk powder, *Piper longum*, *Myristica fragrans*, *Elettaria cardamomun* and coca powder are in the ranges between 23-50 % by wt, 0-30 % by wt, 0.5 - 5% by wt, 0-5% by wt, 0-8% by wt and 1-15% by wt. respectively.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the optional additives present are in the ranges between sugar/jaggary 20 - 35 % by wt, milk powder 0-20 % by wt, *Piper longum* 0.5 - 5 % by wt, *Myristica fragrans* 0-3 % by wt, *Elettaria cardamomun* 0-4 % by wt and coca powder 0-10 % by wt.

In yet another embodiment, the dried, powdered, mixture of plants extract, roasted seed powders, sugar/jaggary, milk powder, coca powder, *Elettaria cardamomum* powder, *Piper longum* fruit powder and *Myristica fragrans* (Jaiphal) fruit powder mixture is mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes to get the final nutraceuticals.

In yet another embodiment the nutraceutical formulations, as herein described for the composition, methodology, preparation of base materials and value addition by plants extract to get the end products, may be used as health protective, promotive, food supplements to ameliorate the general health of females with optimum nutrients so as to ensure the optimal growth and development of the child both at prenatal and post natal stages.

Novelty :

The novelty of present invention is the specific combination of legumes, cereals, pseudocereals fortified with herbs/ medicinal plants and the process for the preparation of nutraceuticals. The nutraceuticals are with optimum nutrition, non toxic, natural herbal plant products, easy to digest, have protective, preventive and health promotive properties for the best health and vigour of the females, pregnant and lactating mothers so as to ensure the

optimal growth and development of the child both at prenatal and post natal stages.

The present invention provides a process for the preparation of custom-made herbal health protective nutraceuticals.

- 5 The present invention provides formulation for the combination of edible legumes, cereals, pseudocereals with promising potential for the development of well balanced nutritional base material.

The present invention provides value added products with synergistic health promotive, protective and preventive effects of natural herbs/medicinal plants to get specifically designed
10 nutraceuticals for well balanced natural nutrients, to get optimum nutrition for general health protective benefits to the females, pregnant and lactating mothers and to ward off malnutrition.

The invention is described with reference to the examples, which are provided by way of
15 illustration only, and these examples should not be construed to limit the scope of the present invention.

EXAMPLES:

SPECIFIC COMBINATIONS

- 20 To prepare nutraceutical formulation the seeds of *Glycine max*, *Cicer arietinum*, *Phaseolus mungo*, *Triticum aestivum*, *Hordeum vulgare*, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* and *Fagopyrum esculantus* were roasted by keeping in microwave oven for 3 minutes separately. The microwave roasted seeds, were powdered separately to pass through a 100-mesh sieve. The seed powders and herbs/medicinal plants extract were mixed as given in example 1.

25

Example 1

- The microwave roasted seed powders of *Glycine max* 30g, *Cicer arietinum* 15g, *Phaseolus mungo* 10g, *Triticum aestivum* 10g, *Hordeum vulgare* 10g, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* 15g
30 and *Fagopyrum esculantus* 10g were mixed for 20 minutes in a mixer grinder. The roots, fruits, bark, whole plant of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants collected from different natural sources in India were cut into small pieces of about 3 cm, dried under shade at 25°C, crushed and powdered to 10- mesh. The dried powder of *Centella asiatica* (Brahmi) whole plant 250g, *Withania somnifera* (Ashwagandha) roots 50g, *Pueraria tuberosa* (Vidhari)
35 roots 50g, *Asparagus racemosus* (Satawari) roots 50g, *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (Safed musli) roots 50g, *Boerhaavia diffusa* (Punamava) roots 150g, *Sida cordifolia* (Bala) roots 100g and *Saraca indica* (Ashoka) bark 100g were extracted with 1.2 lit of aqueous alcohol

40% v/v thrice for 24 hours, at temperature 30°C, the solvent from combined extractives was removed under reduced pressure at 25 psi, at temperature of 50°C and the viscous residue thus obtained was called as the plants extract. The 10 g of plants extract was suspended in 20 ml water and mixed with mixer grinder for a period of 30 minutes, the suspension of plants
5 extract was mixed with the 90 g mixture of roasted seed powders and mixed thoroughly for a period of 30 minutes. The plants extract and seed powders mixture was dried for 42 hours at 40° C, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for 25 minutes. The powder thus obtained was used to prepare final nutraceuticals. The 53.0g dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was mixed with 35.0g
10 pale sugar powder, 10.0g milk powder, 0.5g *Piper longum* (Pippali) fruit powder, 0.5g *Myristica fragrans* (Jaiphal) fruit powder and 1.0g *Elettaria cardamomum* (Elaichi) powder. The total mixture was mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for 25 minutes to get the final nutraceutical product.

15 The combination of the present nutraceuticals is a mixture having synergistic health protective and promotive properties useful as food supplement for females.

To prepare nutraceutical formulation the seeds of *Glycine max*, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, *Phaseolus radiatus*, *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus*, *Triticum aestivum*, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* and *Chenopodium quinoa* were roasted by keeping in microwave oven for 7 minutes
20 separately. The microwave roasted seeds, were powdered separately to pass through a 200-mesh sieve. The seed powders and herbs/medicinal plants extract were mixed as given in example 2.

Example 2

25 The microwave roasted seed powders of *Glycine max* 15g, *Phaseolus vulgaris* 15g, *Phaseolus radiatus* 20g, *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus* 5g, *Triticum aestivum* 15g, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* 25g and *Chenopodium quinoa* 5g were mixed for 30 minutes in a mixer grinder. The roots, whole plant, bark, fruits of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants collected from different natural sources in India were cut into small pieces of about 3 cm,
30 dried under shade at 30°C, crushed and powdered to 10- mesh. The dried powder of *Centella asiatica* (Brahmi) whole plant 200g, *Withania somnifera* (Ashwagandha) roots 100g, *Pueraria tuberosa* (Vidhari) roots 75g, *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (Safed musli) roots 25g, *Boerhaavia diffusa* (Punarnava) roots 100g, *Sida cordifolia* (Bala) roots 75g and *Saraca indica* (Ashoka) bark 50g were mixed and extracted with 1.0 lit aqueous alcohol 60% v/v
35 thrice for 32 hours, at a temperature of 35°C, the solvent from combined extractives was

removed under reduced pressure at 40 psi, temperature of 60° C and the viscous residue thus obtained was called as the plants extract. The 12 g of plants extract was suspended in 30 ml water and mixed with mixer grinder for a period of 30 minutes, the suspension of plants extract was mixed with the 88 g mixture of roasted seed powders and mixed thoroughly for a period of 35 minutes. The plants extract and seed powders mixture was dried for 36 hours at 45°C, the dried plants extract and seed powder mixtures were again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder 35 minutes. The powder thus obtained was used to prepare final nutraceuticals. The 50g dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was mixed with 20g jaggery, 20g milk powder, 3.0g *Piper longum* (Pippali) fruit powder and 3.0g *Myristica fragrans* (Jaiphal) fruit powder, 4.0g *Elettaria cardamomum* (Elaichi) powder and the total mixture was mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for 30 minutes to get the final nutraceuticals.

The combination of the legumes, cereals, pseudocereals and herbs/medicinal plants in the present investigation is a mixture having synergistic properties useful as food supplement for females, pregnant and lactating mothers for pre and post natal health protective and promotive benefits.

To prepare nutraceutical formulation the seeds of *Glycine max*, *Phaseolus radiatus*, *Mucuna pruriens*, *Hordeum vulgare*, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* and *Fagopyrum esculantus* were roasted by keeping in microwave oven for 10 minutes separately. The microwave roasted seeds were powdered separately to pass through a 300-mesh sieve. The seed powders and herbs/medicinal plants were mixed as given in example 3.

Example 3

The microwave roasted seed powders of *Glycine max* 40g, *Phaseolus radiatus* 10g, *Mucuna pruriens* 10g, *Hordeum vulgare* 20g, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* 15g, and *Fagopyrum esculantus* 5g were mixed for 25 minutes in a mixer grinder. The roots, fruits, whole plant of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants collected from different natural sources in India were cut into small pieces of about 6 cm, dried under shade at 40°C, crushed and powdered to 20-mesh. The dried powder of *Centella asiatica* (Brahmi) whole plant 100g, *Pueraria tuberosa* (Vidhari) roots 150g, *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (Safed musli) roots 50g, *Boerhaavia diffusa* (Punamava) roots 150g, *Sida cordifolia* (Bala) roots 100g and *Asparagus racemosus* (Satawari) roots 75g were mixed and extracted with 1.5 lit aqueous alcohol 70% v/v thrice for 36 hours, at 55°C, the solvent from combined extractives was removed under reduced pressure at 50 psi, temperature of 50°C and the viscous residue thus obtained was called as the

- plants extract. The 15 g of plants extract was suspended in 50 ml water and mixed with mixer grinder for a period of 35 minutes, the suspension of plants extract was mixed with the 85 g mixture of roasted seed powders and mixed thoroughly for a period of 40 minutes. The plants extract and seed powders mixture was dried for 28 hours at 50°C, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder 45 minutes. The powder thus obtained was used to prepare final nutraceuticals. The 60 g dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was mixed with 30g pale sugar powder powder, 6.0g coca powder and 4.0g *Piper longum* (Pippali) fruit powder. The total mixture was mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for 50 minutes to get the final nutraceuticals.
- 10 The combination of the legumes, cereals, pseudocereals and herbs/medicinal plants in the present investigation is a mixture having synergistic properties useful as food supplement for health protective and promotive benefits of the females.

- To prepare nutraceutical formulation the seeds of *Phaseolus vulgaris*, *Cicer arietinum*, *Phaseolus mungo*, *Phaseolus radiatus*, *Hordeum vulgare*, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* and *Fagopyrum esculantus* were roasted by keeping in microwave oven for 12 minutes separately. The microwave roasted seeds, were powdered separately to pass through a 400-mesh sieve. The seed powders and herbs/medicinal plants were mixed as given in example 4.

Example 4

- The microwave roasted seed powders of *Phaseolus vulgaris* 20g, *Cicer arietinum* 10g, *Phaseolus mungo* 10g, *Phaseolus radiatus* 15g, *Hordeum vulgare* 25g, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus* 10g and *Fagopyrum esculantus* 10 g were mixed for 35 minutes in a mixer grinder. The whole plant, roots of natural authentic herbs/medicinal plants collected from different natural sources in India were cut into small pieces of about 7 cm, dried under shade at 40°C, crushed and powdered to 10- mesh. The dried powders of *Centella asiatica* (Brahmi) whole plant 150g, *Withania somnifera* (Ashwagandha) roots 80g, *Asparagus racemosus* (Satawari) roots 100g, *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (Safed Musli) roots 100g, *Pueraria tuberosa* (Vidhari) roots 70g, *Boerhaavia diffusa* (Punarnava) roots 30g and *Sida cordifolia* (Bala) roots 100g were mixed and extracted with 1.0 lit aqueous alcohol 90% v/v thrice for 36 hours, at a temperature of 40°C, the solvent from combined extractives was removed under reduced pressure at 40 psi, temperature of 55°C and the viscous residue thus obtained called was the plants extract. The 20 g of plants extract was suspended in 60 ml water and mixed with mixer grinder for a period of 45 minutes, the suspension of plants extract was mixed with the 80 g mixture of roasted seed powders and mixed thoroughly for a period of 45 minutes.

The plants extract and seed powders mixture was dried for 48 hours at 50°C, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture was again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for 35 minutes. The powder thus obtained was used to prepare final nutraceuticals. The 65.0g dried herbs extract and seed powder mixture was mixed with 20g jaggary, 5.0g *Piper longum* (Pippali) fruit powder and 10.0g coca powder and the total mixture was mixed thoroughly in a grinder mixture for 40 minutes to get the final nutraceuticals.

The combination of the present nutraceuticals have synergistic health protective and promotive properties useful as food supplement for females, pregnant and lactating mothers.

Table 1: The amount (% composition) of seed powders (legumes, cereals & pseudocereals) in the base products.

Example Nos.					
Legumes	1	2	3	4	Range
<i>Glycine max</i>	30	15	40	0	
<i>Cicer arietinum</i>	15	0	0	10	
<i>Phaseolus mungo</i>	10	0	0	10	
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	0	15	0	20	
<i>P. radiatus</i>	0	20	10	15	
<i>Psophocarpus tetragonolobus</i>	0	5	0	0	
<i>Mucuna pruriens</i>	0	0	10	0	
Total Amount of Legumes	55%	55%	60%	55%	55 – 60 %
Cereals					
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	10	15	0	0	
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	10	0	20	25	
Total amount of cereals	20%	15%	20%	25%	15-25 %
Pseudo Cereals					
<i>Amaranthus hypochondriacus</i>	15	25	15	10	
<i>Fagopyrum esculantus</i>	10	0	5	10	
<i>Chenopodium quinoa</i>	0	5	0	0	
Total amount of pseudo Cereals	25%	30%	20%	20%	20-30 %

Table 2: The amount (%) of different herbs/medicinal plants in the total used for extraction with alcohol.

-----Example Nos-----					
Herbs/Medicinal plants%	1	2	3	4	Range
Essential					
<i>Centella asiatica</i>	32	32	16	23	16-32%
<i>Chlorophytum tuberosum</i>	6	4	8	16	4-16%
<i>Boerhaavia difussa</i>	19	16	24	5	5-24%
<i>Sida cordifolia</i>	12	12	16	16	12-16%
Optional					
<i>Withania somnifera</i>	6	16	0	13	0-16%
<i>Pueraria tuberosa</i>	7	12	24	11	7-24%
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i>	6	0	12	16	0-16%
<i>Saraca indica</i>	12	8	0	0	0-12%

5 **Additional**

The additional herbs *Piper longum* 0-5%, *Elettaria cardamomum* 0-8% and *Myristica fragrans* 0-5% was added in the end products.

10 **Table 3:** The percent composition & ratio of the seed powders and Herbs/Plants extract 10-20 g (10, 12, 15 and 20 g) of the extract was mixed with 80-90g of the base products (90, 88, 85 and 80 g mixture of the seed powders in examples 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively).

-----Example Nos -----				
Ingredients%	1	2	3	4
Seed Powders %	90	88	85	80
Plants extract %	10	12	15	20
Ratio	(9:1)	(7.3:1)	(5.6:1)	(4:1)

15 **Table 4:** Percentage Composition of ingredients in final/end product

Example Nos.						
Ingredients (%)	1	2	3	4	Preferred ranges I II	
*Seed powders mixture %	47.7	44	51	52	44.52 (Table 1)	40-60
Herbs/Medicinal Plants Extract %	5.3	6	9	13	5-13 (Table 2)	5-20
Sugar/jaggery %	35	20	30	20	20-35	20-35
Milk Powder %	10	20	0	0	0-20	0-30
<i>Piper longum</i> %	0.5	3	4	5	0.5-5	0.5-5
<i>Myristica fragrans</i> %	0.5	3	0	0	0-3	0-5
<i>Elettaria cardamomum</i> %	1	4	0	0	0-4	0-8
Coca powder %	0	0	6	10	0-10	0-15

* **Detailed % Composition of Seed powders Mixture % in the end product**

Example No.	1	2	3	4	Range %
Legumes %	26.6	24.2	30.6	28.6	23-31
Cereals %	9.5	6.6	10.2	13.0	7-13
Pseudocereals %	12.0	13.2	10.2	10.4	10-13

Table 5: Record of Clinical Trial & Feed Back from Volunteers after consuming the Herbal Health Protective and Promotive Nutraceuticals for Females / Expectant mothers

1. Age group: 20 – 50 years

2. Profession/Family background: House wife, business & service class

3. Taste & Flavor: satisfactory to excellent

After one week, two week, one month

Product	One Week	Two Week	One Month	Remark
1	NS	NS	NS	NS (10)*
2	NS	NS	NS	NS (10)
3	NS	NS	Satisfactory	NS (10)
4	Satisfactory	Good	Good	Good (5)
5	Good	Good	Very Good	Good (5)
6 **	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (6)
7 **	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (7)
8 **	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (8)
9 **	Very Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent (8)

NS = Non significant effect, cannot say

* Number of women who remarked out of ten;

** The products generated as final products

The word **satisfactory, good, very good and excellent** stands for the efficacy of the products as reported by volunteers after consuming the product like no side effects, no any kind of digestive problem, improvement in vigour, energetic, on general health conditions as protective, preventive, promotive benefits etc.

Product 1-9 = Base (Seed powders mixture) + Extract of single plant or different combinations of herbs/medicinal plants

Nutrition Composition of Commercially Available Samples:**1. BOURNVITA:**

5	Nutrients per 100 g of Bournvita	% RDA	Function
	Protein 7 g	40	Helps to build muscle tissues
	Vitamin A 950 Mcg	60	Good vision
10	Vitamin C 70 mg	40	Repair of tissues
	Thiamine 2.4 mg	65	Healthy Nervous system
	Niacin 33.5 mg	54	Releases energy from food
	Pyridoxine 3 mg	35	Helps to build immunity
	Vitamin B ₁₂ 1.5 Mcg	65	Growth & Development
15	Foli Acid 350 Mcg	70	Helps blood formation
	Calcium 155 mg	100	Stronger bones & teeth
	Iron 26 mg	20	Prevents anemia
	Riboflavin	65	Metabolism of food

RDA = Recommended Dietary allowance as per "Nutritive value of Indian foods"

20

Ingredients:

Malt extract, Sugar, Coca powder, Milk solids, Liquid glucose, Vitamins, Minerals, Leavening agent (Leavening substance used to make dough ferment), Salt.

25

2. COMPLAN (Chocolate flavour):

Approximate composition/100g; Energy value 444 K cal

30

Protein 20 %; Fat 16 %; Carbohydrate 55%
 Choline 65 mg; Sodium 400 mg; Phosphorus 780 mg;
 Chloride 500 mg; Vitamin A 1060 IU; Vitamin C 25 mg;
 Vitamin D 150 IU; Vitamin E 3 IU; Vitamin K 0.045 mg
 Iron 13.5 mg; Niacin 6 IU; Ca-pantothenate 3.0 mg
 35 Folic acid 75 Mcg With Vitamin A, B, C, D & E

Ingredients: Skimmed milk, sugar, vegetable oil, permitted antioxidants, maltodextrin, caramel-beet root juice powder, added flavour, minerals & Vitamins (Heinz India Ltd New Delhi)

40

3. COMPLAN (Natural flavour): Complete planned food in a drink with 23 vital nutrients.

Approximate composition/100g; Energy value 444 K cal

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Protein 20 %; Fat 16 %; Carbohydrate 55%
 Choline 65 mg; Sodium 400 mg; Phosphorus 780 mg;
 Chloride 500 mg; Potassium 920 mg; Iodine 110 mcg;

Vitamin A 1060 IU;	Vitamin B ₁ 0.45 mg;	Vitamin B ₂ 0.57 mg;
Vitamin B ₆ 0.76 mg;	Vitamin B ₁₂ 0.76 mg;	Vitamin C 30 mg;
Vitamin D 150 IU;	Vitamin E 3 IU;	Vitamin K 0.045 mg
Iron 13.5 mg;	Niacin 6 IU;	Ca-pantothenate 3.0 mg
5 Folic acid 75 Mcg;	With Vitamin A, B, C, D & E	

Ingredients: Skimmed milk, sugar, vegetable oil, permitted antioxidants, maltodextrin, caramel-beet root juice powder, added flavour, minerals & Vitamins (Heinz India Ltd New Delhi)

10

4. **PROTINEX:**

Protein hydrolysate-16.8%; Sugar - 9.3%; Malt Extract - 3.2%; Ca-phosphate -400mg;
 Choline-bitartrate 150 mg; Vitamin A 1600 IU; Vitamin C 25 mg; Vitamin B₁ 1.0 mg;
 15 Vitamin B₂ 1.37 mg; Vitamin B₆ 0.5 mg; Vitamin D₃ 100 IU; Vitamin E 5 IU;
 Vitamin K₃ 0.13 mg; Iron-gluconate 17 mg; Niacinamide 15 mg; Pantothenate 1.0
 mg; Folic acid 50 Mcg; Biotin 10 mg

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5. **CERELAC :**

Protein 15.5 %;	Fat 9.0%;	Carbohydrate 68.9%;
Na 200mg;	K 470mg;	Ca 470 mg;
Fibre 1.4g;	Ash 2.7%;	Moisture 2.5%

419 K cal

25

Ingredients: Fatless milk solid, wheat flour, sucrose, edible vegetable oil, vitamins & minerals.

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6. **HORLICS :**

Ingredients: Wheat flour, milk, barley malted, malt extract, sugar, vitamins & minerals, cardamom powder.

35

7. **BODY :**

Protein 35%; Fat 2.0%;

Zinc, Vitamin A, B, C, D, E, niacin, phosphorus, iron, calcium tri-calcium

40

Ingredients: Soy protein isolate, malt extract, sugar, milk, malt, vitamins & minerals.

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8. **SOYATEIN :**

Ingredients: Defatted Soya flour granules

National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow

Record of Clinical Trial & Feed Back from Volunteers

Nutraceuticals/ Health Care Products

1. Product(s) Volunteered to take: Herbal Health Promotive Nutraceuticals for Females

5 2. Age group: 20 – 50 years

3. Number of Volunteers: 10 in each case

4. Profession/Family background: House wife, business & service class

5. Taste & Flavor: Satisfactory to excellent

10 6. Feeling after Consuming the Product (e.g. Refreshing, Energetic, Diuretic etc.):

After one week, two week, one month

Product	One Week	Two Week	One Month	Remark
1	NS	NS	NS	NS (10)*
2	NS	NS	NS	NS (10)
3	NS	NS	Satisfactory	NS (10)
4	Satisfactory	Good	Good	Good (5)
5	Good	Good	Very Good	Good (5)
6	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (6)
7	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (7)
8	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good (8)
9	Very Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent (8)

• Number of women who remarked out of ten;

Product No

- 15 1. Base + *Centella*;
 2. Base + *Centella* + *Chlorophytum*;
 3. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum*;
 4. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida*;
 5. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida* + *Withania*;
 6. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida* + *Withania* + *Pueraria*;
 20 7. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida* + *Withania* + *Pueraria* +
Asparagus;
 8. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida* + *Withania* + *Pueraria* +
Asparagus;
 9. Base + *Centella* + *Boerhaavia* + *Chlorophytum* + *Sida* + *Withania* + *Pueraria* +
 25 *Asparagus*.

7. Suggestions:

Improvement in solubility or suspension

Claims

1. A herbal health protective, promotive and nutraceutical formulation for women, human expectant mothers, wherein the said formulation comprising seeds/ seed products selected from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals ranging from 80-90% by wt; 10 – 20 % by wt of extract obtained from essential herbs/ medicinal plants of the genera *Centella*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia* and *Sida*, and optional herbs / medicinal plants selected from the *Withania somnifera*, *Pueraria tuberosa*, *Asparagus racemosus* and *Saraca indica*.
5
2. A herbal nutraceutical formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the seeds/ seed products are selected from dried seeds, roasted seeds and powdered seeds.
10
3. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the legumes used are essentially selected from the group comprising *Glycine max*, *Cicer arietinum*, *Phaseolus mungo*, *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus radiatus*.
4. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the legumes used are optionally selected from the group comprising *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus* and *Mucuna pruriens*.
15
5. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the total amount of legumes used is in the range from 55 - 60 % by wt.
6. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the cereals used are selected from *Triticum aestivum*, *Hordeum vulgare* or mixtures thereof.
20
7. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the pseudocereals used are selected from *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, *Fagopyrum esculantus*, *Chenopodium quinoa* or mixtures thereof.
8. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the total amount of cereals used is in the range from 15-25 % by wt.
25
9. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the total amount of pseudocereal used is in the range from 20 - 30 % by wt.
10. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the said herbs/medicinal plant parts used is selected from roots, fruits, bark and whole plants.

11. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein, the total amount of herbs/medicinal plants used is X, wherein X is ranging between 10 – 20 % by wt of the formulation.
12. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 11 wherein, the amounts of the essential herbs/medicinal plants namely *Centella asiatica*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Boerhaavia diffusa* and *Sida cordifolia* are used in the ranges between 10-40 % by wt of X, 2-20% by wt of X, 5-30 % by wt of X and 10-20 % by wt of X respectively.
13. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 12 wherein, the amounts of the essential herbs/medicinal plants namely *Centella asiatica*, *Chlorophytum tuberosum*, *Boerhaavia diffusa* and *Sida cordifolia* are used in the ranges between 16-32 % by wt of X, 4-16% by wt of X, 5-24 % by wt of X and 12-16 % by wt of X respectively.
14. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 11 wherein, the amount of the optional herbs/medicinal plants namely *Withania somnifera*, *Pueraria tuberosa*, *Asparagus racemosus* and *Saraca indica* are used in the ranges between 0-16 % by wt of X, 0-24 % by wt of X and 0-16 % by wt of X and 0-12 % by wt of X respectively.
15. A herbal formulation as claimed in claim 1 optionally contains acceptable amount of further additives selected from *Piper*, *Elettaria* and *Myristica*.
16. An herbal health protective, promotive and nutraceutical composition for women and expectant mothers, wherein the said formulation comprising a mixture of seed powder consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals ranging from 44 to 52%, herbs/medicinal plants extract ranging from 5 to 13 %, sugar/jaggery ranging from 20 to 35%, milk powder ranging from 0 to 20%, *Piper longum* fruit powder ranging from 0.5 to 5.0%, *Myristica fragrans* fruit powder ranging from 0 to 5.0%, *Elettaria cardamomum* seed powder ranging from 0 to 4.0 % and coca powder ranging from 0 to 10 %.
17. A composition as claimed in claim 16 wherein, the amount of legumes present in the overall seed powder mixture is in the range between 23-31% by wt.
18. A composition as claimed in claim 16 wherein, the amounts of cereals present in the overall seed powder mixture is in the range between 7- 13% by wt.
19. A composition as claimed in claim 16 wherein, the amounts of pseudocereals present in the overall seed powder mixture is in the range between 10- 13% by wt.

20. A composition as claimed in claim 16 wherein, the composition is suitable for use in the form of powder, granules, biscuits, tablets, ingots, syrups or capsules for women/human expectant mothers.
21. A process for the preparation of herbal health protective, promotive nutraceutical compositions useful as food supplements to ameliorate the general health of women/
5 human expectant mothers with optimum nutrients so as to ensure the optimal growth and development of the child both at pre-natal and post-natal stages, said process comprising:
- 10 a. selecting one or more seeds/seed products from the group consisting of legumes, cereals and pseudocereals wherein, the legumes consisting plants of genera *Glycine*, *Cicer*, *Phaseolus*, *Psophocarpus*, *Mucuna*, *P.vulgaris*, and *P.radiatus*, cereals consisting plants of genera *Triticum* and *Hordeum*, and, pseudocereals consisting plants of genera *Amaranthus* *Chenopodium* and *Fagopyrum*,
 - b. roasting the seeds/seed products for 2 to 15 minutes under microwave conditions
15 having frequency 1500-2500 Mhz,
 - c. powdering the roasted seeds to a mesh size of 50 - 400 and mixing the same to obtain a base product,
 - d. obtaining extract of herbs/medicinal plants from one or more plants of genera
20 *Centella*, *Withania*, *Pueraria*, *Asparagus*, *Chlorophytum*, *Boerhaavia*, *Sida* and *Saraca*, and drying the extract to obtain a residue,
 - e. mixing the plants extract residue with the base product obtained from step (c) to get the final nutraceutical products and optionally adding one or more additives selected from sugar, jaggery, milk powder, *Piper longum*, *Myristica fragrans*,
Elettaria cardamomun and coca powder.
- 25 22. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the seeds/ seed products are selected from dried seeds, roasted seeds and powdered seeds.
23. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the roasted seeds are powdered separately to pass through sieves having mesh size ranging from 50 to 400
24. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the roasted seed powders comprising
30 legumes, cereals and pseudocereals are mixed in various proportions ranging between 80 - 90 %.
25. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the total amount of herbs/medicinal plants used is ranging between 10 - 20 % by wt of the formulation.

26. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the legumes used are essentially selected from the group comprising *Glycine max*, *Cicer arietinum*, *Phaseolus mungo*, *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Phaseolus radiatus*.
27. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the legumes used are optionally selected from the group comprising *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus* and *Mucuna pruriens*.
28. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the cereals used are selected from *Triticum aestivum*, *Hordeum vulgare* or mixtures thereof.
29. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the pseudocereals used are selected from *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, *Fagopyrum esculantus*, *Chenopodium quinoa* or mixtures thereof.
30. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the total amount of legumes used is in the range from 55 - 60 % by wt.
31. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the total amount of cereals used is in the range from 15-25 % by wt.
32. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the total amount of pseudocereal used is in the range from 20 - 30 % by wt.
33. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the amount of roasted seed powder used is in the range between 44 to 52 % by weight.
34. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the roasted seed powder comprising legumes in the range 23 - 31 % by wt, cereals in the range 6-13 % by wt and pseudocereals in the range 9 to 13 % by wt.
35. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the plant parts used are selected from roots, fruits, bark and whole plant of herbs/medicinal plants which is ranging up to 20% by wt for use in the nutraceutical products.
36. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the herbs/medicinal plant parts are cut into small pieces ranging from 2 to 10 cm, dried under shade at a temperature ranging from 25 to 45° C and crushed to coarse powder having size ranging from 10 to 20 mesh before extraction.
37. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the crushed and powdered herbs/medicinal plants are mixed up to 50% of the total mixture.
38. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the powdered herbs/medicinal plants mixture is extracted with aqueous alcohol in the range of 10 to 90% v/v thrice for 12 to 48 hours, at a temperature ranging between 25 to 45°C.

39. A process as claimed in claim 38 wherein, the alcohol used is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol and butanol.
40. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the said solvent from the combined extracts is removed under reduced pressure ranging from 20 to 100 PSI at a temperature ranging from 35 to 65° C to obtain viscous residue which is called as plants extract.
41. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the plants extract is suspended in water in the ratio ranging from 20 to 70% by stirring for 10 to 50 minutes.
42. A process as claimed in claim 41 wherein, the suspension of plants extract is mixed with roasted seed powder mixture in the ratio ranging up to 20%.
43. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the mixture of plants extract and roasted seed powders are mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period ranging from 5 to 50 minutes.
44. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the mixture is dried for a period ranging from 12 to 48 hours at a temperature ranging between 30 to 50° C.
45. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the dried plants extract and seed powders mixture are again mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period ranging from 5 to 50 minutes and obtaining the powder which is used to prepare final nutraceuticals.
46. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the amount of optional additives used namely sugar/jaggary or mixture thereof, milk powder, *Piper longum*, *Myristica fragrans*, *Elettaria cardamomun* and coca powder are in the ranges between 23-50 % by wt, 0-30 % by wt, 0.5 -5 % by wt, 0-5 % by wt, 0-8 % by wt and 1-15 % by wt respectively.
47. A process as claimed in claim 21 wherein, the dried, powdered, mixture of plants extract, roasted seed powders, sugar/jaggary, milk powder, coca powder, *Elettaria cardamomum* powder, *Piper longum* fruit powder and *Myristica fragrans* (Jaiphal) fruit powder mixture is mixed thoroughly in a mixer grinder for a period of ranging from 5 to 50 minutes to get the final nutraceuticals.
48. A process as claimed in claims 21 and 47 wherein, the end-product is suitable for use in the form of powder, granules, biscuits, tablets or capsules for women/human expectant mothers.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Int'l Application No
 PCT/IN 01/00151

 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A23L1/29 A23L1/30 A61K35/78

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A23L A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, FSTA, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	G.C. SMITH ET AL: "Mineral values of selected plant foods common to southern Burkina Faso and to Niamey, Niger, West Africa" INT. J. OF FOOD SCIENCES AND NUTRITION, vol. 47, 1996, pages 41-53, XP008003767 abstract; table 2	1,2,7,10
X	EP 0 890 360 A (DABUR RESEARCH FOUNDATION) 13 January 1999 (1999-01-13) claims 1,11,13	1,11-13, 16
A	FR 2 714 573 A (INST RECH BIOLOG SA) 7 July 1995 (1995-07-07) claim 1; examples	1,14,16, 21,48
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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